

Dibble Date

Vol. 1, No. 19

Dibble General Hospital

Menlo Park, California 22 December 1945



SANTA COMES TO DIBBLE GENERAL HOSPITAL, GI STYLE



THE DGH BOWLING ALLEYS; NEW CENTER OF RECREATION



KEGLING KINGS
Show varied styles guaranteed to bring
in strikes and spares.



Dibble Data



Vol. 1, No. 19

Christmas 1945

ARMY DOCTOR'S QUOTAS BEAT DEADLINE

NEW DIBBLE EXECUTIVE



DeWitt's Col. Brady Replaces Gibson As Executive Officer

Lt Colonel R. R. Brady, MC, who returned last year from overseas in the Southwest Pacific Theater, is Dibble's new Executive Officer, replacing Col Howland A. Gibson. Col Brady was CO and Director of Professional Services at DeWitt General Hospital before his assignment here.

Following his duties as Chief of Medical Personnel at HNSC, Col Brady shipped to the Southwest Pacific in 1942, where he served in the same capacity.

He became Commanding Officer of the 174th General Hospital, one of the first to be set up on New Guinea, later moving to Australia when the installation transferred there.

DGH Separation Point Closes

The DGH Separation Point officially closed its doors last Saturday, 25 December, after 1345 GI's and 185 officers and nurses had their "ruptured ducks" pinned on their lapels.

Opened on 12 September as a temporary expedient to speed discharges, the Separation Point's biggest job was CDD's, followed by point and age discharges under the demobilization regulations.

CDD's will still continue to be separated through regular hospital channels. Other dischargees will be sent to Separation Centers near their homes.

Total Released Hits 13,320 on 16 Nov.; SGO Vows No Slackening in Discharges

GREETINGS!

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the personnel, both military and civilian, of Dibble General Hospital, who through their conscientious, devoted service, often beyond the call of duty, have helped to make this hospital outstanding in its accomplishments for wounded veterans.

To the patients who are present as our guests, on behalf of the entire staff, may I express my sincere wishes that your recovery may be soon and complete.

A Merry Christmas to all!

*Paul W. Stein
C. M. C.*

SANTA VISITS POST CHILDREN

At 1400 today, Saturday, 22 December, Special Services will hold a Children's Christmas party in the Red Cross Auditorium. Children of all military personnel, whose names have been turned into Special Services, will be given gifts by Santa himself

The Army's quota of 13,000 doctors to be released to civilian life by 31 December has been exceeded six weeks in advance of the deadline, according to Major General Kirk, Surgeon General. Total number separated from the service reached 13,320 on 16 November. By the same date, 20,222 nurses and 2,460 dentists had been retired.

Although the 31 December quota has been attained sooner than expected, Medical Department officials state there will be no slackening in continued efforts to discharge army doctors. From a peak strength of over 45,000 doctors, all but 11,000 will be out of the service by the first of June.

Medical and Dental Corps officers must have the following criteria to qualify for relief from active duty during December: (1) ASR 70 or 42 months of active service; (2) 48 years of age to nearest birthday; (3) the following categories must have ASR or 45 months of service: Gastroenterologist, Cardiologist, Urologist, Dermatologist, Anesthetist, Neuropsychiatrist, Medical Officer-general surgery, Radiologist, Pathologist, Physical Therapy officer; (4) These categories must have ASR 80 or service since Pearl Harbor: Ophthalmologist, Otochinolaryngologist (!), Internist, MC,

(Continued on Page 5)

THE DIBBLE CHORUS, CAROL EXPERTS



Dibble Data

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APN

9-54-M

22 DEMEMBER 1945

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NO BITTER CHORD

I guess perhaps if I were wise,
I should look out with cynic
eyes,
And darkly brood and speak in
gloom
Of present pain and future
doom.
Not being wise, I connot see
So rigid a maturity,
So dark a view, so blank a face
At being in a stranger place:
Upon those days when other
men

—Cpl Raymond P. Armstrong, Wd 13

In other lands, look up again
To thank whatever gods they
know
For Peace and Plenty; even
though,
I can remember other days
With more of things and less
of praise,
To-day, life strikes no bitter
chord.
Being a child, I thank Thee,
Lord.

This verse was written in Cabanatuan Prison, Camp No. 1, Philippines, on Thanksgiving Day, 1943. It serves for any day. Reproduction is not permitted except by permission of the author.



Season's Greetings from The Staff

CHAPEL CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

We celebrate the
birthday of the
Prince of Peace!

May His will prevail in and through us and may we dedicate our lives to the task of keeping Peace on Earth forevermore.

Chaplain

Claude E. Adams

May the Divine Child of Bethlehem bring many blessings to our commanding officer, all of our patients, and all of our personnel.

May the Christ King bring peace to our shattered world.

Chaplain

William P. O'Connor

Chapel Services

PROTESTANT

Chaplain Claude E. Adams

Sunday: Worship Service, NP Section, 0900; Worship Service, Chapel, 1000; Musical Program, NP Section, 1830. Tuesday: Bible Study and Discussion, Chapel, 1830. Office Consultation Hours: Each week day, 1030-1130 and 1300-1400.

Christmas Eve Program; Service of Christmas Eve Fellowship and Worship Service including singing of Christmas carols.

CATHOLIC

Chaplain William P. O'Connor

Sunday: Mass, Chapel, 0600 and 1100; Mass, NP Section, 0900. Mass: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 1645; Tuesday, Thursday, 0700. Monday: Mass, Novena, and Benediction, 1645; Rosary and Novena, 1930. Saturday: Confessions, 1900-2100. Confessions before and after each Mass.

Midnight Mass, Christmas Eve. Christmas Day, Masses at 0600, 0730, 0900 and 1100.

JEWISH

Rabbi Emanuel Kumin

Saturday: Sabbath Service, Chapel, 0930.

Chaplains available for consultation at any time. Call Extension 299.

All personnel, military, and civilian; and their family and friends, are invited to attend the services of their choice.

GOD'S BEST BLESSINGS ON YOU!

"Peace", Brother?

Tokyo (CNS)—The Japs have chosen names for 2 new brands of domestic cigarettes. The names: "Corona" and "Peace."

"Where Were You in '44?" They Won't Swap for DGH

Where were you last Christmas? DIBBLE DATA's roving reporter posed this question to patients throughout the hospital . . . none of them felt like changing places with this year's locale. They cover the globe, from Iran to Leyte.

Pfc Robert Sherman, Wd 25, 276 Eng Bt, ETO . . . Sailed from England day before Christmas, with turkey for breakfast on the morning of the 24th. Christmas Day . . . in the middle of the English Channel.

T/5 Shigeru Inouye, Wd 25, 100 Bt, Italy . . . Christmas here at Dibble . . . two days back from surgery.

Pfc William S. Tsuchdea, Wd 37, 44 Div, ETO . . . We were retreating from the Rundstedt offensive . . . spent a cold Christmas in Grossreddigen, France.

Pvt John D. Hamlin, Wd 25, 226 Inf, ETO . . . It was too crowded to hold any Christmas service in one of those 40 x 8 boxcars, headed for the front in Bichewall, France.

Cpl Marvin Brown, Wd 11, 200 CA and AA, South Pacific . . . I was a Jap prisoner, along with 400 other GIs at Ft. McKinley, near Nichols Field. Christmas meal was 150 grams of rice, along with rocks and dirt.

Pfc Valentine Pier-sa, Wd 11, 77 Div Pacific Area . . . I was in a foxhole on Leyte with K rations for my Christmas feast.

S/Sgt John Johnson, Wd 11, 84 Inf Div, ETO . . . We were in the middle of the Battle of the Bulge . . . spent the day in a foxhole, but the Mess Sergeant contrived to give us turkey sandwiches.

Cpl Helen Schiller, WAC, Wd 9, 15 AAF Italy . . . We held open house in our hotel quarters, with holiday decorations and turkey.

1st Lt Eleanor Anderson, ANC, Wd 16, 159 Gen Hosp, ETO . . . Casualties from the Battle of the Bulge were pouring in. There was no let-up in our work in England.

1st Lt Catherine Henrick, ANC, Wd 16, 113 Gen Hosp, Iran . . . Nothing to remind us of Christmas. It was hot and we had a full house.

1st Lt William Sovinsky, Wd 1, 466 Bomb Group, ETO . . . In England we gave a Christmas party at the Officers' Club for 200 English children.

Maj Saturnino R. Silva, Wd 1, 130 Inf, Pacific Area . . . I was in the jungles of Mindanao . . . had been there for 15 months commanding the 130 Infantry (Filipino Scouts) . . . For dinner we had boiled mud fish and sweet potatoes . . . with no salt.

SHE CAME IN SECOND



More on Doctor's Releases

(Continued from Page 3)

Plastic surgeon, Orthopedic surgeon.

MAC's are eligible for discharge if their ASR is 60, if they are 42 years old, or if they have had 42 months of service.

Army nurses and Physical Therapists must have ASR 25, or be 30 years of age, or have 24 months of service before they can be relieved. MD Dietitians need ASR 30 or be 35 years of age to be eligible. All these groups may be separated if they have dependent children under 14 years of age, if they are married, if physical status is LUS.

It should be noted by all officers that length of service includes total active commissioned and enlisted service since 16 September 1940. All ASR scores are computed as of 2 September 1945.

WAC SERGEANT SNAFUED BY BUCKING NEW GUINEA JEEP

Until she was snafued by a jeep in New Guinea, S/Sgt Edna Sutton was having "a wonderful adventure" in the WAC. Trained at Ft Des Moines, and Ft Oglethorpe, she served one year overseas with the Headquarters Commandant Office in Australia and New Guinea. The sergeant arrived stateside last May in a hospital ship, well packed in plaster of Paris. She's still being treated on Wd 9 for fractured spine and leg, acquired when a jeep she was riding hit a washed-out bridge and landed on top of her.

"The biggest thrill I had was my trip overseas," recalls the brown-haired sergeant. With 500 WAC officers and non-coms, she was in the first group of women sent to the South Pacific.

"In Australia we lived six to a hut," runs her tale. "We had to walk a block to the latrines, and laundry was a terrific problem, with three irons to 300 girls."

Sgt Sutton's immediate impulse, upon reaching the States, was to buy up all the lipstick she could find. "Makeup was simply non-existent overseas. The girls who had a good supply of lipstick were lucky. Australian brands were terrible, and there were no bobby pins at all." Like the other WACs in her company, she bobbed her hair and let it curl naturally.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Sgt Sutton wears the DUC, the SWP ribbon, WAAC, Good Conduct, American Theater and Victory ribbons. Now traveling on crutches, she expects a discharge soon—"I don't want out at all—it's sort of being forced on me."



Cpl Milo Baron, Wd 23, got a hot tip straight from the feed box and Jockey Skoronski, when the Bay Meadows men thundered into Dibble on 25 November with a bang-up stage show. Helping Milo pick a winner are Jockeys Jack Smith, A. Shlemmer, T. Skoronski, Vince Polk, Bay Meadow's assistant manager Joe Cohen, C. Loveridge and J. Haritos.



All present and accounted for!

WARDchatter

The worm turns . . . instead of the gals doing the honors, GI's of Wd 11 got together in behalf of ward buddy Robert Keisling's baby, expected in January. Instigated by Harold Harrington, the little-one-to-be will be completely equipped all the way from rubber pants to a "portable bathing job."

Newly elected bridegrooms consult Wd 7's Albert Bliss on the art of breaking ice . . . he's a genius. The chimes rang out in Oakland, the lady was Molly Bohor.

Wd 6 looks like a plane hangar. No reports yet on who has been grounded but Frank Macchia vows his gas-powered model is a combination of a typhoon and Art Chester's racer.

Stamp happy . . . Sam Manley and Jim Dorenbusch, Wd 7, have stamps of all sizes, shapes and nations . . . the US collection still the favorite by a long shot.

Daily business men's lunch conference of Wd 6 includes Art Dawkins, John Bacon, Charles Valentine and Frank Matteris . . . Dawkins, as host, entertains with the Christmas record he made for the folks back home.

Star studded hill billy program . . . drop in at Don Wedener's room, Wd 13, where you'll find Clinton Spivey plunking on his Spanish guitar . . . Burning the midnight oil on a kennel project in Wd 24—Wendel Harper and Ed Meyer. Project? . . . fashioning a Christmas poodle.

The Wolf

by Sansone



Oh Nurse!

By Olive Drab

Plans for the Christmas party of the nurses are driving Lt Baylink to drink . . . the numerous details accompanying such a soiree need a hard head and a light heart. Looks like it will be quite some affair.



Just about now, the nurses of Dibble deserve a vote of thanks and hearty congratulations. Production is at its peak and everyone is staying on the job . . . Dibble has a fine record in the Command and the nurses on plastic, orthopedic, and eye services have really put forth.

Overseas orders on 17 nurses caused that "old" feeling, as the new circular of Dec. 4 reducing requirements for discharge of nurses, causes a new feeling . . . everybody's stampeding somewhere.

From all the Dibble nurses to everybody . . . THE VERY MERRIEST OF CHRISTMASES AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHFUL NEW YEAR.

CADET CAPERS

By Eva Molitor

Stocking up on mistletoe . . . are plenty of cadets, after getting a gander at Lt Hanson's handsome Navy son. Jean Engdahl will save hers for Sundays when best beau Johnny comes to call . . . Kehm, Snively and Coombes don't need any . . . Santa filled their stockings early with husbands back from overseas . . .

Then there's the tale of the gals so attached to quarters, they won't take late passes anymore . . . and Gloria Wright who went into the old flat tire routine when she was two hours late t'other night . . . Parker, with her new interest in the art of gold mining.

Election . . . provided a student council to rule and chasten . . . with Viola Ketchum heading the group, Dale Parker as secretary and Della Giesy appointed to cook up entertainment. Representatives are Virginia Wilson, Catherine Smith, Eva Molitor and Virginia Bets.

GIVE A WAR BOND
FOR CHRISTMAS



BOQ

By Inna Fogg

Another two weeks, another column, and what to say . . . there's a lot of speculation as to who is the pen behind these pearls of wisdom but . . .

Sad faces of the week . . . Col O'Connor and Lt Sheddoudy just got the latest results of the 5th at Bay Meadows.

Lt Randall is contemplating suicide with gin . . . seems UCLA hasn't done right by him. Must have been the muddy field or the fluid fog here in "Sunny Cal" . . . at any rate USC does the honors at the coming Rose Bowl game. Someone swiped his pinks the other night and locked him in his room, and was that new blonde dish mad!

Lt Salmeron . . . handing out advice on how to woo and win the fair nurses . . . insists that all the girls he dates must first fill out the proper questionnaire and if they qualify, well . . .

Lt Thuman became quite perturbed one evening while listening to Beethoven . . . seems the pool table kids were making unnecessary noises, when he remarked, "Please, gentlemen, bear with me during Beethoven's last movement."

BOQ musings . . . What's happened to Capt Pokorny's "cookie duster?" . . . Lt Wolf still arguing . . . Randall, Tudor and Miner engaged in gymnastics in the BOQ corridor . . . Mayhue pounding out latest designs on billfolds and purses . . . to the delight of Capt Ireland, who resides in the room below. BOQ is getting as busy as Grand Central Station, what with the new influx . . . of officers . . . too many to list, so "hi" to all!



WAC Wise

By Riting Hood

Cwis'mas comes . . . with Tess Ringers and Gus Chesley still looking for a Santa-size chimney in D-2 . . . They've been desperate ever since the Post Engineers nailed up the ventilators . . . C-1 still echoes with the ghosts of departed "Tommy" Thompson's hillbilly tunes . . . Pre-holiday furloughs paid dividends—(husbands) to Marian Horkey and Dorothy Boustead . . . Others want 'em, too . . . meaning furloughs, natch!



Domestic . . . Convalescing on Wd 9, Agnes Larkin displays a beautiful work in embroidery . . . "Mother" Westmoreland buying rugs and ironing ruffles in white lace curtains . . . Little WACs vs. Mother Nature—as the whole company was detailed to transplant shrubs in front of the barracks . . . Horticulturist Leslie Inks hopes her drooping plant will grow up to be a hop vine—she can brew her own 3.2!

We'd like to know . . . what really happened on McMahon's 3-day pass? . . . if Harvey is hiding our mail? One vicious rumor says she's saving it for Christmas presents . . .

Dear Ripley . . . Dorothy Rummel is sprouting her third set of molars . . . Du-lon Sargent lights 22 candles on a birthday cake today . . . another year, another dollar . . . ?

Still waiting . . . Ferrara expects a call from handsome sailor brother, with line forming at right for all who've seen his picture. . . . The canteen piano takes a beating every night . . . "Stinky" Davis could make a fortune selling earmuffs over the PX counter . . . Sharp sight: Basketballing Dib-WACs dribbling down court in their bright yellow satin shorts! . . . That 2300 coffee hour in the kitchen, with Lt Fuchs presiding in a GI purple bathrobe . . . Domnitz in a floral-print kimona . . . Lois Clark in fatigues . . .

Male Call



by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



IT'S A GIFT . . .



CIVIL TONGUES

Mary Barnhart leaves after almost two years in the Officer's Mess office . . . back to the hometown in Indiana.

At the Christmas meeting of the National Federation of Federal Employees, it was voted to present the Palo Alto Hospitality House with \$25.00.

Nora Wayne resigns this month as secretary to the Sgt. Major. Leaving the same office is Louise Lanich . . . poor Mal won't have a gal left.

Following the usual Christmas custom, civilians from all departments will gather at noon in the Civic Center, 24 December, to sing yuletide carols.

Just a note to thank Major Borchert for his recent kindness in helping out us civvies regarding our belated checks!

Post Theater Adds Plush

The Post Theater blossoms out with new and comfortable seats, in time for its holiday audience.

Medical DT's

Beyond the horizon . . . amble these carefree souls: Johnny Pagnotta; Al Biagini—to the Golden Gate; Ken Van Vliet—to Ford's Dearborn, Michigan; Black Nate Benson—to Beverly Hills; "Tony" Celano—still in Menlo Park; Ed Hooper—to psychoanalyzing cows in Butte; Tom Delaney—to Greenwich Village in Gotham Town.

Survey . . . the GI driver tests unearthed more color blind guys . . . Detachment separates gotta hike to Beale, now . . . Harvey Matthews will trade his car for a horse and buggy . . . no questions asked.

We'd like to wish our readers . . . there are four of them . . . a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!



DGH ANNEXES McCHORD BAND

Fourteen members of the 559th AAF Band arrived on the Post last week from McChord Field, Tacoma, Washington. Complete with equipment, their assignment here spells musical days ahead for Dibble.

Santa Goes Stripe-Happy

In time for pre-Christmas celebration, broad smiles and broader stripes broke out in full rash for the EM and WAC Detachments during the last two weeks. Twenty men and 61 gals sewed on new ratings.

NCO Club Has Christmas Frolic

The Dibble NCO Club held a pre-Christmas dance on Thursday, 20 December, in their quarters. Over 100 members and guests turned out for the frolic.

No Halfway Measures



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Patients Here for Holidays Won't Lack Christmas Fun

The Red Cross is going "all out" to celebrate the holidays with patients who remain at Dibble for Christmas, with parties in the Rec Hall and in all wards.

The San Francisco Mixed Chorus, directed by Eugene Fulton, will begin the festivities tomorrow night with a concert in the Rec Hall. The Dibble Choir will carol in the Red Cross lobby at 1200 on 24 December, singing in the wards on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve Party

Open house in the Red Cross begins at 1900 Christmas Eve, with a Wassail Bowl, Christmas cakes and candy served by the Palo Alto Canteen in the lounge. Mrs. Dorothy Meade and Mrs. Marie Emory are presenting a holiday musical, with a string quartette, soloist and choir. Before the party's end, Saint Nick will make his entrance to bestow gifts upon all the patients.

"Miss Santa" For Bed Patients

Bed patients will come in for a share of the fun, too, as 14 organizations sponsor parties in the wards, and "Miss Santa" hostesses distribute their gifts.

Christmas Day will feature strolling minstrels in the Rec Hall and wards, sponsored by the Call-Bulletin and Examiner of San Francisco. "What Next, Corporal Hargrove," is the movie to be shown during the afternoon.

Off-post activities include dinners on Christmas Day in private homes for many patients, and a party-concert on 23 December given by the National Catholic Community Service at the California Club.



Among the GIs from Dibble's blind section who attended the weekly Baxter blowouts, are Pvt. Guadalupe Vidaurre, Lt. "Smitty" Shumway, and Pvt. Leslie Laurel . . . and do they have fun!

CINEMA

Sat., 22 Dec.	1900
The Daltons Ride Again	
Allan Curtis, Kent Taylor	
Sun., Mon., 23-24 Dec.	1815-2015
Stork Club	
Betty Hutton, Barry Fitzgerald	
Tues., 25 Dec.	1815-2015
The Strange Mr. Gregory	
Edmund Lowe, Jean Rogers	
Thurs., 27 Dec.	1815-2015
Danger Signal	
Faye Emerson, Zachary Scott	
Fri., 28 Dec.	1815-2015
Dakota	
John Wayne, Vera Hruba Ralston	
Army-Navy Screen Mag	
Sat., 29 Dec.	1900
People Are Funny (Radio Show)	
Jack Haley, Rudy Vallee	
Yolanda and the Thief	
Sun., Mon., 30-31 Dec.	1815-2015
Fred Astaire, Lucille Bremer	
Tues., 1 Jan.	1815-2015
Riverboat Rhythm	
Leon Errol, Mary McGuire	
Danny Boy	
Robert Buzz Henry, Ralph Lewis	
Thurs., 3 Jan.	1815-2015
Vacation from Marriage	
Robert Donat, Deborah Kerr	
Fri., 4 Jan.	1815-2015
Getting Gertie's Garter	
Dennis O'Keefe, Marie McDonald	
Sat., 5 Jan.	1900
One Way to Love	
Chester Morris, Marguerite Chapman	
March of Time	

New 'Phone Center For Dibble

To provide adequate service for the growing efflux of Dibble long distance calls, the Pacific Telegraph and Telephone Company is building a new telephone center here to be located south of the Red Cross.

The new building will house twelve private telephone booths, a two position switchboard, a larger directory service, plus writing desks and a comfortable lounging area.

CHOIR MAKES XMAS MUSIC

Those heavenly voices you've been hearing in the wards these pre-Christmas days aren't angels—it's the Dibble Choir singing their carols. The 30-voice group, under direction of Sgt Fred Swan, will also sing a high mass for the Catholic Christmas Eve midnight service. The choir is all-women, including nurses, WACs and civilian employees at Dibble. Nathalie Peterson is president of the singers; secretary is Jean Ward.

"Dear Ruth" Tops The List Of Special Service Hits

Highlighting the Special Services program this month was the presentation of "Dear Ruth" on Thursday, 13 December. The original cast, including Marjorie Gateson, Randee Sanford and Philip Ober, appeared before a packed house in the Red Cross Auditorium. The comedy hit, one of the funniest Broadway has produced in a long time, went over in a big way with patient personnel.

"Pardon Me," a new USO musical comedy, presented on Monday, 17 December, was dubbed the "perfect show for the holiday season" by GI's.

Under the direction of Cpl Roger Rooney, the Dibble Radio Players broadcast a Christmas program on Wednesday, 19 December, entitled "An American Rhapsody".

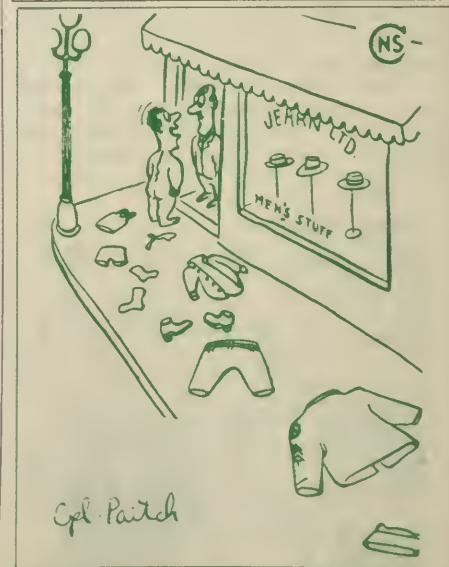
On Thursday afternoon, 20 December, a stage show, sponsored by Bay Meadows, had the patients in the Rec Hall bouncing in their seats.

Purple Heart to Borcherts

Mrs. Max A. Borchert, wife of Dibble's adjutant, received the Purple Heart medal, awarded posthumously to her son, Sgt William A. H. Borchert, in a ceremony 5 December. The 20-year-old Air Corpsman was killed in action over France in September 1943.

SGO Names Closing Army Hospitals

General Army hospitals which are already closed or will be closed by 1 January 1946, as announced by the SGO, are as follows: Ashburn, Barnes, Battey, Baxter, Darnall, DeWitt, Finney, Foster, Glenann, Hammond, Harmon, Hoff, La Garde, McCaw, Stark, Thayer, Torney, Winter, Camp Pickett.



"Do you have something in blue?"

WARMIN' THE BENCH

By SGT. FRANK DEBLOIS

Bummy Davis was a hardboiled, dishonored kid from the slums of Brooklyn with a murderous left hook and a nasty disposition. He clubbed his way from the sweaty, smoke-choked fight clubs of Brownsville to a main event match at Madison Square Garden.

Bummy was a one-armed fighter. You could cut off his right arm, for all the good it ever did him. And when he was matched with Fritzie Zivic, the welter-weight champion of the world, he didn't have a chance because this Zivic was a cutie. He gave Bummy the toe, the elbow, the thumb and the rabbit and Bummy

almost went nuts. He fouled Zivic all over the ring and when the referee stepped in to stop it, Bummy took a belt at him, too. That night he was barred "for life" from fighting in the Garden.

Then Bummy was drafted. He served in the Army and was discharged. He went back to the neighborhood clubs and

lived on liniment, stale coffee and sweat. And after a while his "life" suspension was lifted and he was signed for another match in the Garden—against Bob Montgomery, the lightweight champion.

The Left Goes Home

Montgomery came out of his corner. Bummy uncorked his left, caught Montgomery on the button and the champion went down—as cold as a pickerel. It was roses and champagne again.

But Bummy couldn't stand prosperity. He bought a home for his mother. He bought a saloon in Brooklyn. He was knocked out by Beau Jack. He spent \$2500 on a one-night party. He was licked by Henry Armstrong. He bought a couple of race horses. He was knocked out by Rocky Graziano.

Finally Bummy, his credit falling fast, found he could no longer make the weight. He sold his saloon one day and the next night he dropped in to gas with the new owner.

While they were standing at the bar, a couple of guys walked in with guns in their hands and said "This is a stickup."

"Why don't you give this guy a break?" Bummy said to the gunmen.

"Why don't you shut your fat face?" one of the gunmen said.



DIBBLERS NOSE OUT AUTEN FIVE WITH LAST-MINUTE "PRAYER SHOT"

Recruiting Drive Given Added Impetus by WD

Added impetus has been given to the recruiting drive at Dibble by new liberalizations in enlistment directives. Chief provision permits men to reenlist in the grade in which they are discharged until 1 February 1946. AUS officers who reenlist are assured the grade of Master Sergeant.

T/Sgt John McCarthy, Recruiting Sergeant, emphasizes that all grades assigned upon reenlistment are permanent. Permanent grades may be taken away only by a board of officers.

Up until 11 December, the DGH Recruiting office had reenlisted 16 men, with 6 on the fire. Eleven reenlistments from the Palo Alto Veterans' Administration Facility had been processed through the office, also.

The DGH Recruiting Office is in the Individual Services Center, Ward 22, North.

Six Teams Join Bowling League

All departments are invited to organize teams for a hospital-wide bowling tournament. Several departments have already lined up their teams, and now have regular practice schedules. Among the teams already organized are: Motor Pool, WAC, R&E, Brace Shop, Individual Services, EENT Clinic and Quartermaster.

According to WOJG Edwin Howe, Bowling Officer, high scorers are Hugh Gorenman and Arthur Peterson of Wd 4. Art scored 247 while Hugh leads with 256. Manager Fred Evanoff says these boys are a double threat duo in any man's league. The Bowling Alleys are located on Ward 22, South.

The Last Left Hook

Bummy let fly with his left. He caught the gunman on the jaw, breaking it. Then Bummy went after them as they ran out of the saloon. On the sidewalk they opened up on him and got him in the neck and lungs.

Bummy tried to stagger to his own car, but he fell dead before he could reach it.

"What an end!" his manager said, when told how Bummy had died. "He was a wonderful little character."

WAC CAGE SCHEDULE

Date	Place	Opponent
21 Dec.	Home	Fort Mason
28 Dec.	Away	Fort McDowell
4 Jan.	Home	Open
11 Jan.	Home	Camp Stoneman
13 Jan.	Away	Letterman G H
25 Jan.	Away	Fort Mason
1 Feb.	Home	Fort McDowell
8 Feb.	Home	Open

By T/Sgt Bob Wylie

Two hundred fifty thrilled spectators saw a storybook finish in the Post Gym last Thursday night, 13 December, when the Dibble Dribblers nosed out a fast Auten Five with a last minute "prayer shot," to win 29 to 28.

Jerry Isenberger, PT superman, tallied with a one-hander, 40 feet from the basket, to clinch the see-saw contest after a tight fight. Dibble looked sharp in the early stages with Sam Lugonja, center, hitting the ring, Stan Pampuch rebounding, and Bob Wylie setting up the plays.

Tied at Half

Halftime saw the score knotted at 14-14, but the Auten men, cashing in on their fast breaks, brought the count to 28-27 in the closing stages, with a free shot. With the ball in Dibble's possession, Pampuch tried a 50-footer which missed, but Isenberger followed up with his eagle to win the ball game.

The Dibble Dribblers continued their winning streak by polishing off the University of California ASTP five, 24-16, on 7 December.

Limping Sam Lugonja, pride and prejudice of Wd 5, garnered court honors for the evening with 8 scored points, crowded by Tom Everden, of the Cal men, who had 7. Wd 12's Furtado, playing his first game with the Dribblers, turned in a smooth floor game.

Dribblers Continue Win Streak

The preceding week saw the Dibble Dribblers take the Elk's Club curtain raiser in Palo Alto by spilling Spiller's Service, of Redwood City, 34-22. Lugonja tossed in 8 field goals and 3 gift shots for a 19-point high.

Here is Dibble's remaining first-half schedule of home games for the Palo Alto League; 27 Dec.—DGH vs. Black White Cab; 3 Jan.—DGH vs Palo Alto All-Stars; 10 Jan.—DGH vs Hewlett-Packard; 17 Jan.—DGH vs Collins Club.

DibWACs Drop First Two Games

Clicking with fast-maneuvered plays, the Letterman WAC basketball team eased out a smooth DibWAC five, 34-33, in last Friday's game. After the first quarter the scores were never far apart. A free throw in the last seconds of play gave the Letterman gals the win.

Dib-WACs went down to the Camp Stoneman basketball six, 26-17, in their first cage bout on 7 December. Shirley Morrow and Adrianna Lanting led scoring for the Dibble gals, with Abby Marlatt playing fast ball in the defensive area.

Next contest for the Dib-WACs, now captained by Anita Waadne, is set for 28 December at Fort McDowell.

KYUSHU CHRISTMAS... 1944

Before the war, writing was a hobby for Cpl Raymond P. Armstrong, Wd 13. Three-and-a-half years as a prisoner of the Japs turned the hobby into a passion. Armstrong arrived in the States last September, with a thousand-and-odd poems churning in his brain. As soon as he found paper, two volumes began to take form: a series of poems, called "New Birth of Freedom;" and a biographical sketch, "Prison Camp Horse Trader." Freedom is the queen of most of Armstrong's lyrics. It gains new values when seen through the eyes of a man who has lost it, then finds it again.

After a few months back in the States, Armstrong photographs in a sharp contrast to the gaunt official



picture made when he was sent to work the mines at Fukuoka, Japan, Camp Six. The description of Christmas in a Jap prison which follows may not be reprinted without permission of the author.

By Cpl. Raymond P. Armstrong

The hour was late. Dutchman, Englishman, Australian, and Yank were folded in their blankets and many of them were asleep. Now and again the door would creak open, admitting the returned traveler, who for so many months had been paying his nightly tribute to a diet—almost entirely carbohydrates and water. He would burrow his way into blankets. Soon there would be a stirring motion in one of the other "humps" along the long collective sleeping "bay" and another skeleton-like figure would emerge from his cocoon, tremble in the cold, step into clogs and a coat, and stumble down the aisle. Again the door would creak. So through the night—that night.

That night had been a night to remember. It seems as if, among the so-called civilized and Christian nations, there is one occasion when men are at their virtuous best. No matter how cheap, niggardly, predatory and plain cut-throat men become, the hours echoing "Silent Night, Holy Night" bring a momentary touch of humility and good fellowship—an oasis in the desert. Already the national groups had travelled from hut to hut with carols, best wishes, and singing "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows." Already Katsura, the Nip interpreter, had given us his speech, expressing the hope that this would be our last Christmas in bondage. Also, by way of apology, he told us that he was merely the tool of his superiors in the brutal treatment which had become so customary. Recollection of his own obvious enjoyment of his role kept us from being impressed. Christmas eve—and most of us lay still, seemingly asleep—thinking into the small hours. No visions of sugar plums; only a dream of a little more food.

The cold moved in and heads' were plunged beneath blankets; conversation,

and divided it among the fifty men in either end of the huts. Our hut, No. 9, was half Yank and half Australian. By seven-thirty we were all at the table—a long one, running two-thirds the length of our part of the hut—feasting upon the holiday bounty of our hosts. The meal consisted of sweetened rice and tea with sugar. The rice was gummy and red for half of it was really kaffir corn, but it was filling and to us a rare treat for the sugar it contained. Washing of eating gear and standing "tinko" filled in the rest of the morning activities, leaving a lot of time to think, hope, and argue about the prospect of Red Cross food parcels. We knew they were in camp, but—would the old man put them out?

The excitement which gripped the camp at the fateful hour of eleven will never be adequately described; nor will it ever be understood by anyone who has not touched the emaciated edge of starvation. Red Cross parcels were being taken from the warehouse.

The Japanese camp commandant had, as a result of a previous experience, developed an aversion to distributing canned meats to the men. It seems that once he had distributed parcels intact and the following day all the men in camp were sick and unable to work. The English Colonel, ranking man of the prisoner personnel, had succeeded in convincing him that only corned beef and salmon were really "dangerous." Naturally those two items were removed and sent to the kitchen to be cooked and served later. Powdered milk, another choice item, was half retained, as we were told, for hospital patients. The remaining items: spam, butter, cheese, chocolate, jam, prunes, sugar, gum, pate, coffee, and cigarettes were distributed intact, along with one can of powdered milk for each two men. Naturally there was little rice or soup eaten at noon, but none was given away. Starving

(Continued on Page 11)



KYUSHU CHRISTMAS

(Continued from Page 10)

men are seldom generous—even at Christmas. The Yank holds on to his lip service through to the bitter end. The consternation in the face of the man asked to say grace at the table reminded one of the lament of the old Jewish poet when he asked "How shall I sing the songs of Zion in a strange land?" One charitable note did dominate our table that noon. There were some among our group who had traded their rations away in advance (trading of rations for future rations, cigarettes, or yen had long been a prevalent practice)—and, by mutual agreement, without regard for previous bargaining, everyone was permitted to eat his issued ration. Charity ended with the noon meal.

During the long afternoon trading was rampant and wild. The same men who had been singing "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows" spent the afternoon trying to out-talk and out-trade. The one outstanding event of the afternoon was the issue of beer. It was a native brew in bottles of about a quart capacity. True to the Japanese form, the issue was one bottle to two men. Not even an issue of beer could stop the trading. It merely added one more item for trade.

By the time the evening meal was due, almost everyone in camp was adequately gorged, and no one particularly interested in food—that is, for immediate use. There had long been a rumor that a goat and certain of the commandant's chickens were due to be slaughtered for the evening meal. Confirmation of that rumor came in terms of the soup, stew, or slum—depending upon whether you were English, Dutch or Yank. There was actually meat in the mixture in pieces large enough to see. For the first time in Japan, we needed toothpicks. In addition, there was the usual rice and the unusual "fish on top." Fish, rice, a thick stew, tea—with sugar—and the sort of tea made with real tea leaves. Such luxury was unbelievable. For all of the previous consumption of food, all was eaten, even fish heads. In Japan we wasted nothing. In sharp contrast to the "charitable" note of the noon meal, the evening showed one man with five rations of fish and some with no fish; some fellows, already a bit tipsy, with four bottles of beer in front of them and others with no beer, sober and self-righteous.

Trading continued late—for some too late. The deadline had been set at ten o'clock. Holiday was over at that hour. Those who continued their holiday activities, beer and trading, were hailed by sentries and slapped about to impress the fact that the holiday was over and that tomorrow—and an endless million more tomorrows—we could look forward to the usual in brutality and borderline starvation.

This had been Christmas in a prison camp on the north tip of Kyushu, Japan, A. D. 1944.



By H. H. Arnold, Librarian

You'll laugh over LAUGHING STOCK, as the editor Bennett Cerf intended you should. This new collection of 600 stories and anecdotes includes a dozen pages of limericks, ten pages of zany definitions, and an index to help you locate a story on a special subject, like Wartime Washington, Walter Winchell, or Wives. Carl Rose's clever drawings portray the bespectacled Cerf as an innocent bystander, and the editor's skillful story-telling heightens the impression he actually saw these things happen. Our own favorite is the pig-Latin story on page 122.

CHEROKEE STRIP could be the memoirs of an Indian dancer—but it proves to be Marquis James' autobiography, with the emphasis on his boyhood years in that section of Oklahoma which was opened to white settlement in 1893. Young James, whose father had ridden in the famous Run to stake out a claim, was brought up on tales of rattlesnakes, Indians, cattlemen, and famous outlaws like Dick Yeager, for this was frontier country where "you pushed discretion pretty far by asking a man where he came from. You never asked him why he'd left."

Adria Locke Langley's best selling novel, A LION IN THE STREET, creates one of the most unforgettable characters we've found in recent fiction. Some critics believe Huey Long unwittingly set the pattern for Hank Martin, backwoods boy whose "kindlin' power" made him potentially a great leader, until his love of glory and feet of clay laid him low.

"It's the most sensual book I've ever read, from a woman's angle," said a borrower when she returned the book; and certainly the reader will remember Hank's rich, earthy backwoods speech. We would classify the book as definitely on the side of the angels, however, for it carries a powerful warning against all political lions who rise to power only to exploit the people who gave them the power.

**AVC Speakers Begin Lecture Series by Vet Organizations**

Representatives from the American Veterans Committee spoke at patient and detachment orientations on 29 November, opening a series of lectures by various veterans' organizations.

Richard X. Goggin, ex-Navy CPO, told of the founding of AVC three years ago by a group of servicemen vitally interested in preventing future wars and defending issues for which they were fighting. Leon V. Tichinin, former Air Corps Private, stressed the policy of non-discrimination and the AVC's determination to back the world peace program.

The AVC is composed of servicemen and veterans of World War II, and is the only group which admits all branches of service, including Merchant Marine, regardless of race, color, creed or sex.

Representatives of the AVC attended the United Nations Conference in San Francisco as officially accredited State Department observers. Legislation proposed by the AVC's National Planning Committee, concerning GI loans, has been adopted by Congress.

Hot News Via AP Teletype

Arrangements are being made by the Information-Education Department for the installation of an Associated Press Teletypewriter, to be placed in the Civic Center so that hot news coming off the wire may be read by all.

The plan has received the full cooperation of Col Streit and the head of the AP in San Francisco now is awaiting official confirmation from the AP in New York. It is hoped to have the teletypewriter installed by the time patients return from holiday furloughs.

USAFI Privileges Extended

Extension of USAFI privileges of veterans 9 months after discharge is one of the new changes in USAFI procedure which will be of special interest to patients awaiting discharge.

Another change is the privilege of a veteran's continuing any course in USAFI that he started prior to discharge, as long as he has sent in one lesson before separating from the service.

Some of these new practices are effective immediately while others will be established by January 1st. This expanding program is designed to benefit those already in service and new enlistees whose education is temporarily stopped.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Germany (CNS)—"Here's one for you Adolf," said L/Gen Lucian K. Truscott, pressing a button. A mile away GI dynamite, charges blew up 59 buildings of the I. G. Farben gunpowder plants.

Best Wishes, to
The boys at Dibble
General Hospital

Alice Faye



If you'd like to see this bit of fluff stuffed in YOUR sock on Christmas morn . . . just tear the top off your First Sergeant and send it to 20th CENTURY FOX!